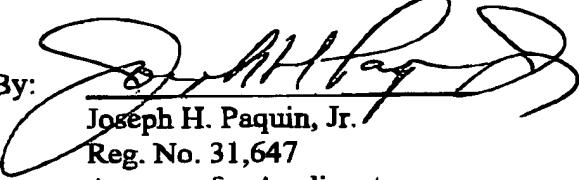## CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully requests that the foregoing amendment be entered and that the pending claims be considered and allowed to issue. The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned directly at (312) 984-7679 should there be any issues that might hinder passage of this application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 23, 2002

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Appendix A

Marked-up Copy of Amended Claim 1 for App. No. 09/540,601

1. (Twice Amended) A virtual trading floor system, comprising:

a coder/decoder that receives and transmits data;

a graphic interface coupled to said coder/decoder <u>to receive data from said coder/decoder, said graphic interface displaying said data received from said coder/decoder</u> [, that receives and displays certain of said data transmitted from said coder/decoder] as a plurality of trader metaphors representative of actual traders;

said trader metaphors simulating one or more body movements of traders in an open outcry trading environment;

<u>a data interface coupled to said coder/decoder to receive data from said coder/decoder, said data interface displaying said data received from said coder/decoder in a non-graphic, human-readable form; and</u>

a control interface coupled to said coder/decoder for initiating orders related to <u>data displayed by one or both of said graphic interface and said data interface</u> [said data received and transmitted by said coder/decoder; and

a data interface coupled to said coder/decoder for displaying said data in a non-graphic, human-readable form, and for receiving and transmitting data to and from said coder/decoder].

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